

mean the counsels guilmed with the wheels of the heavy supply train? Why those rivers of tears, those lakes of blood? God was angry. Justice must come. A handwriting on the wall! The nation has been weighed and found wanting. Darkness! Darkness! Woe to the north! Woe to the south! Woe to the east! Woe to the west! Death at the banquet!

IV. I have also to learn from the subject that the destruction of the vicious and of those who despise God will be very sudden. The wave of wrath had dashed to the highest point when that Assyrian army broke through! It was unexpected. Suddenly, almost always comes the doom of those who despise God and defy the laws of men. How was it at the deluge? Do you suppose it came through a long northeast storm, so that people far away were sure it was coming? No; I suppose the morning was bright; that waves

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"THE MIDNIGHT REVEL."
IMAGE SERMON PREACHED AT
MONONA, WISCONSIN.

Interpreting the Hand-Writing on the Wall Shown to
Belshazzar Darius—The Close of the Banquet
in Contrast with the Beginning—The
Crism Intruder on the Feast. Etc.

MONONA, Wis., August 8.—[Special.]—A
great outdoor meeting was held here today.
Thousands attended it from the city of Madison,
which is only a few miles distant. The
Rev. T. DeWitt Talbot, D.D., preached to uncounted
multitudes. The subject of the sermon was
"The Midnight Revel," and the text was
Daniel, 5:30. "In that night was Belshazzar
the king of the Chaldeans slain." Dr. Talbot
preached vividly.

Fasting has been known in all ages. It was
one of the most exciting times in English his-
tory when Queen Elizabeth visited Lord Lester
at Kenilworth castle. The moment
of her arrival was considered so
important that all the clocks of
the castle were stopped, so that the hand
might point to that one moment as being
the most significant of all. She was greeted to the
gate with floating islands, and torches, and a
plunder of cannon and fireworks that set the
night ablaze, and a great burst of music that
lifted the whole scene into perfect enchantment.
Then she was introduced in a dining
hall, the luxuries of which astonished the
world; four hundred servants waited upon the
guests; the entertainment cost \$5,000 each day.
Lord Leicester made that great supper in Kenilworth castle.

Catholic Wolsey entertained the French
ambassador at Hampton court. The best
garden in all the land prepared for the banquet
parterre went out and traveled all the king
demanded to find spoils for the table. The
time came. The guests were kept during the
day hunting in the king's park, so that their
appetites might be keen; and when in the
evening to the supper the king's garden
was introduced into a hall hung with silk
and cloth of gold, and there were
tables glittering with imperial plate, and
laden with the choicest wines, and
the most delicate of the choicest wines; and
when the second course of the feast came it
was found that the articles of food had been
fashioned into the shape of men, birds, and
beasts, and groups of figures, and the
guests standing against each other with lances
ready, and princes and ambassadors out of cap-
pelled to the brink drank the health first of the
king of England, and then to the king of
France. Cardinal Wolsey prepared that great
supper in Hampton court.

But my text takes us to a more exciting
banquet. Night was about to come down
upon Babylon. The towers of her two hun-
dred and fifty towers began to lengthen. The
Euphrates rolled on, touched by the fier-
ceness of the setting sun; and gates of
burnished brass and glittering, opened and
closed, and doors of silver and gold were
shut. The city of Babylon, wet with heavy dew, began
to pour from her starlit flowers
and dripping leaf, a fragrance for
which no tongues and no pen could
describe. The city was a scene of
delight and joy. The streets were
filled with music and song, and the
people were dancing and frolic and prom-
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be may make himself solid with his constituents.

We learn also—if "also" is a good editorial word—that the democratic house, under the lead of Messrs. Carlisle and Morrison, has passed the largest appropriation bill ever passed by congress, with one exception.

That exception was a republican house, and the next year the people hastened to make a change, and the result was a democratic house. Let us hope that we are not to have a repetition of this sort of history. The editor of the Congressional Record would retain his place, of course, but there would be trouble for other people if the voters of the country should conclude that democratic extravagance is no better than republican extravagance.

In round figures \$265,000,000 of the people's money has been appropriated for one purpose and another. It is hard-earned money. It comes out of the people in the shape of hard-earned taxes. These appropriations may be in the nature of economy; but if that is so, the Carlisle and Morrison contingent which controls the house, ought to have very little to say about the oppressions of the tariff. The tariff taxes are by no means as oppressive or as untimely as the dig into the treasury which the free-traders have approved.

But we will say no more. Congress has adjourned, and it is to be hoped that the next congress will not only be democratic, but that it will be more economical in the matter of spending the people's money.

Our Uncertain Weather.

August bids fair to make a rather remarkable weather record for itself. A statistical contemporary, however, reminds us that August of last year was marked by several severe and disastrous storms. New York was visited on the 12th by a damaging water-spout along the line of the Central road. There were terrific storms the following day in the vicinity of Reading, Pa., and Long Island, N. Y. Seven days later Milwaukee, Wis., was visited by a violent storm. On the 21st an electric storm near New Orleans killed five men, and a similar elemental disturbance occurred at Cincinnati the next day. On the 24th a strong gale with thunder and lightning swept over New England, and a storm struck Charleston, S. C., demolishing over a million dollars worth of property. On the 27th there was a frost in Pennsylvania.

It will be seen, therefore, that August affords ample room for all sorts of weather. The probabilities are that the storms will be of a purely local character, and the cold waves will have no special significance. Our farmers, it is thought, may now count on a reasonably favorable season, and if there is anything in predictions, they may look out for a hot and dry September.

Up to this time the worst effects of the drought have been confined to the west and northwest. It was broken at an opportune moment in the southwest and the Atlantic states have had, if anything, too much rain, although not enough to affect us disastrously. Upon the whole, the outlook is as favorable as could be expected.

Mesmerism in the Courts.

Willie Sells, the Kansas boy who murdered his father, mother and sister, has through his attorneys, filed a motion for a new trial. One ground is exceedingly novel, and has aroused a decided interest among lawyers, physicians and the people generally.

It is claimed that the boy was mesmerized by the prosecuting attorney. During the cross-examination of the prisoner the prosecuting attorney moved close up to the witness box and directly opposite young Sells, looking at him very intently with black eyes and asking questions very rapidly. In ten or fifteen minutes the boy fell over in what appeared to be a spasm, seeing which the prosecuting attorney rushed out of the room and burst into tears.

The boy recovered in a short time and said that he felt no unusual symptoms either preceding or following the fainting spell. His lawyer was asked how he could explain the boy's recovery from the mesmeric spell unless the mesmerist willed it. The reply was as follows:

"That is very plain. As soon as the proper fell limp and resistless before the county attorney, his desire, hostile to the boy, changed to pity, and, in fact, he sprang up, ran out of the room and burst into tears. The audience in the same way almost immediately became friends, at least for the moment, and the boy's own individuality asserted itself again."

The boy says that when he was apparently unconscious he saw his father, mother and sister, whom he had murdered, and that they were dead.

This case brings up a new question. Will the courts take cognizance of mesmerism when it is used on witnesses?

Perhaps the courts will hold that mesmerism is only a refined form of bullying.

Mesmer, the healer who first practiced mesmerism, created a big sensation in his day, treating various and sundry diseases by the strange influence which he exerted, and which many now call animal magnetism.

Many eminent physicians say that mesmerism is not a fraud. It is said that the simplest form of control is to cause the person to be magnetized to close the eyes and throw the eyeballs upward and backward, or else to cause them to fix the eyes upon some object. Downward passes of the hands before the person produce mesmeric sleep or trance. In this state one will answer fairly all questions asked, and will locate persons at a distance, tell what they are doing, etc. Upward and outward passes will restore the subject to consciousness. The decision of the Kansas court touching this interesting subject will be awaited with great interest. Of course, all doubt on the subject will never be removed. There are skeptics even in Georgia concerning the powers of our own magnetic Lulu Harst.

Old-Fashioned Justice.

A recent case at Denton, Texas, has a smack of the genuine old-time flavor.

A Mr. Morrison circulated damaging reports concerning Mrs. Leona Liles.

The lady wept her persecutor on the street and shot him dead. On the trial of the case it was shown that the character of Mrs. Liles had been traduced without any cause whatever. The jury, after remaining out five minutes, returned a verdict of not guilty.

Our northern contemporaries will doubtless denounce the whole affair as barbarous, and a mockery of justice. From their standpoint they are right. There is something lacking in our civilization, some-

weak point in the law, something wrong in the administration of justice when a person feels called upon to become both judge and executioner, with the certainty of being justified and applauded by the public.

And yet it would take a very cold-blooded wretch to demand the life of this unfortunate woman. A verdict of guilty, and the infliction of the death penalty, in such cases, would not prevent the next victim of a cruel slander from resorting to private vengeance. Perhaps it is all right. At all events, the death of a man who attempted to rob a good woman of her reputation, can be no loss to a community.

The reason Senator Dawes is a great man is because he knows how to play second fiddle to G. Frisbie Hoar. G. Frisbie undoubtedly sets the pace for New England statesmanship.

The South Carolina democratic convention was not by any means unanimous in regard to the sham civil service reform now in vogue.

It is a great pity that all divorce suits do not end as happily as did that of Nathan Horn in Washington, D. C. Nathan was married in 1850 and in time two children were born unto him. They were little girls. But Nathan and his wife did not live happily owing to the interference of parents-in-law. The marriage of Horn occurred in Poland and when he came to this country his wife refused to come with him. He began proceedings for divorce many months ago and a friend wrote to Mrs. Horn about it. She made a start for America at once and a few days ago reached Washington and proceeded to a tailoring establishment where Horn was working. She was accompanied by her brother, who said: "Mr. Horn, here is your wife." Horn paid no attention but proceeded to thread a needle. In a moment he went into a private room, meditated briefly over the affair, then called in his wife and children, embraced them and all was forgiven. The divorce suit is to be dismissed and the reunited family has gone to housekeeping.

Mr. GEORGE I. SENEY has consented to lend forty-five paintings to the Louisville exposition. Mr. SENEY loaned a number of paintings to the exposition in 1883. It is said that he has to a great extent recovered from the reverses which he met two or three years ago. It is stated that he has paid off his indebtedness dollar for dollar.

The rules of civil service reform require that Atlanta, and not Savannah, should win the baseball pennant.

On the ocean side of the Great South Bay, opposite the town of Patchogue, L. I., lives a queer old reclusive named John Smith. He occupies a shanty with his wife and thirteen sons. Very few people ever go to see the Smiths. It is said that the old man has reared his sons without a particle of religion or education, and that they all speak a new language which none can understand except themselves.

The old man has lived at his present home for twenty-five years. A Brooklyn Union correspondent, who visited old man Smith, says the stories told of him, even to the new language of the sons, are absolutely true; that only occasionally do the sons speak an English word that can be understood. The Smiths gather sea weeds which they sell for mattress making, and fish and hunt for a living. The old man raises very fine potatoes in a novel way. He lays the seed on the sand and covers over with damp sea weed. Nature does the rest.

The cool weather will have a tendency to ripen the September possum before his prime.

The good people of Georgetown, Ga., are against fancy music in the churches. The Board of Trustees, which has just come to hand, contains the following official pronouncement on the subject:

"Be it resolved, That whilst we, as a church, love and cherish every one who desires to sing, and who, by his or her voice, adds to the praise of God, we do not deem it expedient to allow the use of such whistling and laughing song as we find in churches at the last session of the C. M. B. conference, and we hereby order the church in conference assembled."

The moonlight nights are again in our midst—the nights on which the torrid shells Thomas cats engage in prolonged duels with the brindle greys.

REV. A. B. LEONARD, D. D., the prohibition leader of Ohio, says the prohibitionists are no longer a balance of power, but that they are power itself. He says the prohibitionists are now a party to hang between two old parties, and he is in favor of nominating candidates straightup, for every office, from president of the United States down to school directors. He says the republican party is trying to carry water on one shoulder and whiskey on the other. Dr. Leonard speaks as the mouthpiece of the Ohio prohibitionists, and says that the prohibition party has served notice on the democratic and republican parties, that they are no longer a balance of power, but that they are power itself. He says the prohibitionists are now a party to hang between two old parties, and he is in favor of nominating candidates straightup, for every office, from president of the United States down to school directors. 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